

YEAR ONE IMPACT · 2026-27

TEXAS EDUCATION FREEDOM ACCOUNTS

The largest school choice launch ever, reaching the Texas families who need it most.



Odyssey administers TEFA under the guidance of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, helping families use state funding for the education that best fits their children.

In year one, TEFA drew
274,000+
applicants, the largest school choice
launch ever

116,000+

participating students 2026-27

95,000+

students on the waitlist

65,000+

additional students indicated
interest for 2027-28 school year

Reaching families who need it most

Compared with all applicants, funded students are more likely to come from lower-income households and to have a documented disability.

Household income

62% of participants are at or below 200% FPL.

Applicants



Participants



● ≤200% FPL ● 200-500% FPL ● >500% FPL

For a family of four: 200% FPL = \$66,000; 500% FPL = \$165,000

Special education

18%

of participants have a documented
disability

7,300 students are receiving an average of **\$5,200** in supplemental special education funding.

How Texas families spend their funds

Every dollar flows through a secure online marketplace where only approved education expenses are allowed, and parents authorize every transaction.

\$270.7M

spent across 975,000+ transactions

Private school tuition & fees · 83%

17%

Tuition & fees: **\$224.5M** across 109,523 transactions

Marketplace: **\$46.2M** across 865,903 transactions

Inside the marketplace

Textbooks & instructional materials		\$30.3M
Technology		\$8.1M
School uniforms		\$3.5M
Tutoring & teaching services		\$2.2M
Online courses & programs		\$1.0M
All other approved categories*		\$1.0M

*School meals, educational therapies, industry credential training, transportation, academic assessments and public school classes.

Increased accountability for Texas taxpayers

Verification in days

- **85% of applicants** verified within seconds
- Remainder verified within three days on average
- Automated income verification, in a state with no income tax

Security & controls

- Parents authorize every transaction
- Two layers of auditing
- Only approved education expenses allowed in the portal
- Frequent reporting on participant demographics and spending

Year two priorities

- Statewide outreach and awareness
- Surveying current and opted-out families
- Improving the IEP verification process
- Expanding the supply of available schools

What Texas leaders are saying:

“This is the biggest and best rollout of a school choice program in the history of America.”



Greg Abbott,
Governor of Texas

“Texas has now received OVER A QUARTER MILLION school choice applications! Our school choice program launch, the largest in American history, has proven that school choice is exactly what Texas families wanted!”



Dan Patrick, Lieutenant Governor
of Texas

“Texas Education Freedom Accounts are built on a simple but powerful idea: Parents know what’s best for their children.”



Don Huffines, Texas
Comptroller of
Public Accounts